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RETAP: 108 ASSESSMENTS, \$5.6 MILLION IN SAVINGS!



The Retired Engineer Technical Assistance Program (RETAP) provides free, confidential, onsite pollution prevention and energy efficiency assessments to businesses (with 500 or fewer employees in Michigan) and institutions of any size. A written report containing specific recommendations to save money, reduce energy usage, conserve water, and eliminate waste generation is provided to the assessed facility within 60 days of the assessment. Each report includes waste reduction and cost savings estimates of significant recommendations identified during the assessment.

In calendar year 2007, RETAP completed 108 assessments at a broad range of manufacturing facilities and other businesses, such as greenhouses, hotels, and print shops. The total estimated annual reductions in energy and water usage, waste disposal, and facility operating expenses of the significant recommendations from these assessments are as follows:

<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Amounts</u>
Electricity Usage:	40.0 million kWh
Natural Gas Usage:	0.7 million CCF
Water Usage:	50.2 million gallons
Waste Disposal:	28.7 million pounds
Operating Costs:	5.6 million dollars

To date, RETAP has conducted over 1200 assessments, with the capacity to assess 125 facilities per year. For each assessment, the RETAP assembles a team of

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retired engineers appropriate for the operations of the facility to be assessed. Currently, 51 retired engineers participate in the RETAP, each having 30-40 years of professional experience. For additional information or to request a RETAP assessment, please contact **David Herb** of the DEQ, Environmental Science and Services Division, at **517-241-8176** or by e-mail at herbdw@michigan.gov.

***LT. GOVERNOR JOHN D. CHERRY, JR. TO BE KEYNOTE
SPEAKER AT SAGINAW BAY COASTAL INITIATIVE
MEETING***

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Director Steven E. Chester announced that the MDEQ will hold a meeting of the Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative (SBCI) on March 7, 2008, at 9:30 am at Saginaw Valley State University, Curtis Hall - 2nd Floor Seminar Rooms D-G, Saginaw, Michigan. Lt. Governor John D. Cherry, Jr. will provide the keynote address. The public is encouraged to attend.



As part of the second year efforts of the SBCI, local opinion leaders have indicated that a high priority for the Saginaw Bay coastal area is the reduction of phosphorus entering Saginaw Bay. In response, Director Chester will be announcing the creation of an effort to determine how local, state, and federal interests can work together to reduce phosphorus in the Saginaw Bay.

Director Chester and Director Don Koivisto, Michigan Department of Agriculture, are organizing the Saginaw Bay phosphorus reduction effort to identify voluntary measures that can be taken in the Saginaw Bay coastal area to reduce the amount of phosphorus entering Saginaw Bay.

The SBCI is working with citizens, local government officials, and multiple regional and federal agencies to develop and implement comprehensive approaches to promoting environmentally sound economic development and resource restoration in the Saginaw Bay coastal areas. The intent of the SBCI is to work together to achieve resource protection, improve environmental quality, and expand economic development.

More information on the on-going efforts of the Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative is available at www.michigan.gov/deq, under "Issues to Watch".

***NEW SEARCHABLE HAZARDOUS WASTE TREATMENT STORAGE AND
DISPOSAL FACILITY DATABASE***

Want an easier way to find a hazardous waste treatment storage and disposal facility? To find the nearest treatment, storage and disposal facility (TSDF), simply enter your zip code and waste type at www.envcap.org/statetools/tsdf. This nation-wide directory of hazardous waste TSDF generates a list of facilities ordered by distance from that zip code, starting with the closest facility, and provides a contact and a map to the facility.

To find compliance and other information about a Michigan TSDF, search for that company's information in the DEQ Waste Data System at www.deq.state.mi.us/wdspi/

If you have questions about a Michigan TSDF, call the Waste and Hazardous Materials Division District Office that oversees the area where that TSDF is located.

CHANGES ON SUBMITTING REGULATED WASTE NOTIFICATIONS

Applicants submitting the Site Identification Form EQP5150 used to notify the Waste and Hazardous Materials Division about a facility's regulated waste activity either through the Michigan Timely Application and Permit Service (MiTAPS) or submitting a paper form. As of January 3, 2008, the interactive link through MiTAPS has been terminated; however, MiTAPS can still be used for searches to determine the types of applications/permits that may need to be submitted for a specific type of activity (e.g., dry cleaning) and EQP5150 will still be indicated when appropriate.

Please go to the Waste Data System at www.deq.state.mi.us/wdspi for instructions on how to find out if a company has an existing site identification number and how to submit a new or subsequent notification. Companies still have the option of paying their notification fee when required with a credit card via a different secure website or by check.

If you have questions about notifications, call the **Environmental Assistance Center** at 800-662-9278 or call the **Waste and Hazardous Materials Division** at 517-335-2690.

GREAT LAKES COLLECTIONS OF HOUSEHOLD UNWANTED ELECTRONICS AND MEDICINES - REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes National Program Office is requesting applications for an estimated \$175,000 in funding for 8-10 cooperative agreement grants which would mobilize citizens and communities to collect and recycle household unwanted electronics and/or dispose of unwanted and expired medicines from within the Great Lakes basin. Both prescription and over the counter medicines can be collected. Selection criteria include the potential for a successful collection event taking place during the week of April 22, 2008.

The Request for Applications is available today through a link from:
<http://epa.gov/glnpo/fund/qlf.html> or directly from
<http://epa.gov/greatlakes/fund/2008-1rfa01/2008-1rfa01.html>

Applications must be RECEIVED or postmarked BY 5:00 PM, Central Standard Time on February 28, 2008.

FACILITY ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE HISTORY

Are you looking for a Michigan company's environmental history? If so, one resource tool that may be helpful is the DEQ Site Registry at www.deq.state.mi.us/SiteRegistry. This database can also be found under the DEQ Online Services heading located on the DEQ home page at www.michigan.gov/deq.

You can search for sites or industries using a variety of conditions including:

The Site Registry includes site information from the following DEQ databases:

- Air Quality
- Air Inventory
- Environmental Science & Services Division
- Toxic Release Inventory
- Land and Water Management Division
- Land & Water Management
- Office of Geological Survey
- Mineral Well (Part 625)
- Oil & Gas (Part 615)
- Waste and Hazardous Materials
- Conditionally Exempt Generator of Hazardous Waste
- Hazardous Waste Transporter
- Large Quantity Generator of Hazardous Waste
- Liquid Industrial Waste
- Scrap Tires
- Small Quantity Generator of Hazardous Waste
- Solid Waste Refuse
- Treatment, Storage or Disposal Facility
- Used Oil Program
- Water Bureau
- Groundwater Permits
- NPDES Permits
- Various Water Program

DEQ will continue to expand and improve the site by adding additional locations and compliance data, along with adding other DEQ databases as resources become available. Display of a location does not necessarily indicate any current or past problem, violation, or hazardous condition.

Please direct questions about a site to the DEQ program referenced in the Site Registry. If you are unsure who to contact, call the Environmental Assistance Center at **800-662-9278** or deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov.

***DETROIT HOSTS NATIONAL BROWNFIELDS
CONFERENCE AT COBO CENTER (HALL) MAY 5-7,
2008***

Lansing (February 1, 2008) - More than 6,000 environmental economic development officials, finance and insurance providers, risk manager's, planners, attorneys, civil engineers, and students from across the nation and Canada are expected to attend the 12th National Brownfields Conference, at Detroit's Cobo Center, May 5 to 7, 2008.

Addressing the nation's brownfields - abandoned or underutilized properties stigmatized by past commercial or industrial uses - is an ongoing challenge for communities of every size. By focusing on redevelopment, brownfield properties can be put back into productive use, creating revenue and jobs for local communities while reducing pressure to develop undeveloped properties and preserving green space.

Brownfields 2008's Educational Program will feature over 150 sessions on the techniques of redeveloping brownfields, incorporating green development techniques, remediating and managing risk, marketing properties, and much more. The annual Phoenix Awards for top projects in each of the ten U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Regions will be announced. More than 250 exhibitors will display the latest technologies and services. Several mobile workshops and a walking tour will highlight local approaches to redevelopment and revitalization.

Detroit's Central Business District and the East Riverfront Promenade are sure to be of interest as the city enters a new era of reinvestment and redevelopment that places the Detroit River in the forefront. Detroit is once again becoming a destination where business, entertainment, and recreation abound.

A unique conference feature is the Transaction Forum (Forum), which brings together property owners with developers, investors, and financiers to talk about specific sites available for purchase, lease, and new uses. At the 2006 Brownfields Conference in Boston, 500 buyers, sellers and other stakeholders involved with redevelopment-ready properties attended the Forum. The 2008 Forum promises to be just as exciting. The Forum will be held on Monday morning, May 5, 2008, the first day of the conference. Registration for the Conference and the Forum are now open.

The National Brownfields Conference is managed by the International City/County Management Association, in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). More than 120 organizations, including many in Southeast Michigan, have endorsed the event.

To register for the FREE conference, or for more information you may go to:
www.brownfields2008.org.

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE CORNER

Is the consumer product that my company manufactures subject to the Consumer Products Rule?

The Michigan Consumer Products Rule (CPR), [Rules 660 and 661](#) of the Michigan Air Pollution Control Rules requires manufacturers to reduce the amount of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in certain products used in households and institutions. The CPR prohibits the distribution, sale or offering for sale of consumer products manufactured on or after January 29, 2007, whose volatile organic compound (VOC) content exceeds specific thresholds identified in the CPR. Those consumer products range from deodorants to aerosol paints. The reduction of VOCs in consumer products can be accomplished through product reformulation.

Compliance assistance staff are experienced department personnel in ESSD that specialize in another environmental program division. Staff provide one-on-one and referral assistance on calls received by the Environmental Assistance Center. If you have any environmental question on which you need assistance, call 1-800-662-9278

The Michigan CPR adopts the September 2006 [Ozone Transport Commission's](#) (OTC's) "[Model Rule for Consumer Products](#)," (OTC Rule) with just a few exceptions (go to www.otcair.org and select "Stationary/Area Sources" from the TOPIC drop down menu. On page 2, scroll down to the heading, "Projects," and click on "OTC Model Rule for 2009 Implementation").

"Consumer products" are defined as chemically formulated products used by households and institutions including, but not limited to, detergents; cleaning compounds; polishes; floor finishes; cosmetics; personal care products; home, lawn and garden products; disinfectants; sanitizers; aerosol paints; and automotive specialty products. The product types listed in this definition are just examples; it is not an exhaustive list. The definitions for "consumer," "consumer product," "household product," "institutional product," and many of the other terms are defined in Section 2, page 1, of the [OTC Rule](#).

If your consumer product contains volatile organic compounds (VOCs), it may be subject to the Michigan Consumer Products Rule (CPR). A VOC is any compound that contains carbon and participates in atmospheric (smog forming) reactions. Michigan has adopted the federal definition of VOC which is found in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 51, Section 51.100 ([40 CFR 51.100](#)). Products might be formulated with VOCs, or might contain fragrance, color additives, blowing agents, or propellants that contain VOCs. Manufacturers provide the VOC content of their products on Material Safety Data Sheets and Certified Product Data Sheets. These sheets may be provided with shipping documents or may be available from the manufacture upon request. Many consumer products have the VOC content information printed on the product label.

Once you have determined that your consumer product contains VOCs, then you must determine if your product is included in one of the product categories. The definitions of these product categories are very specific. It is not always easy to tell if a product is one of these just by looking at the name of the category. Please refer to page 4 of the DEQ publication "[Frequently Asked Questions About the Consumer Products Rule](#)," for assistance in determining if the product category applies to your consumer product. Go to www.michigan.gov/deq, click on "DEQ Publications" under the far right column heading DEQ Quick Links, and then search by Keyword: consumer product).

The VOC content limits contained in the OTC Rule are expressed in terms of percent VOC (by weight) of the product. The VOC content limits for consumer products are listed in the Table of Standards found in Section 3, page 20, of the OTC Rule.

For further information regarding the [Michigan CPR](#), visit www.michigan.gov/deqair, select "Laws and Rules" and scroll down to "Consumer Product Rules." If you have any questions, please contact the Environmental Assistance Program at 1-800-662-9278 or e-mail deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov

MICHIGAN COMMUNITIES SUCCESSFUL AT OBTAINING U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY BROWNFIELD GRANT FUNDING

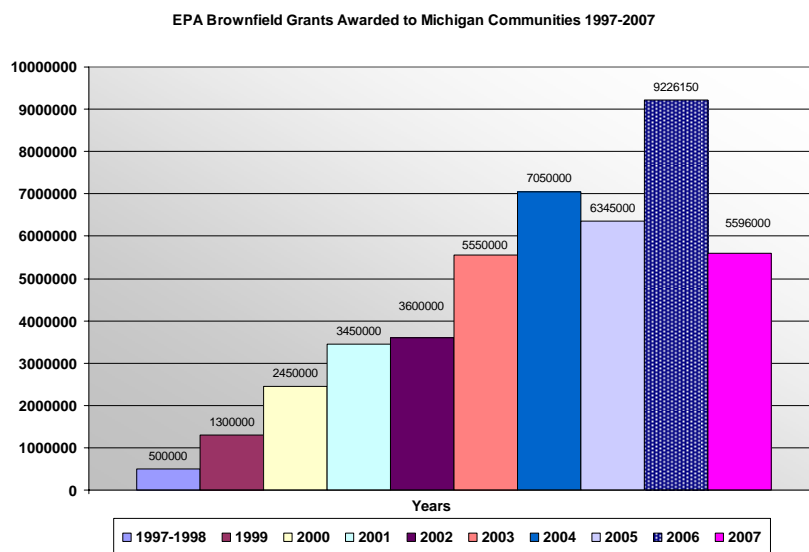
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA's) Brownfield Program is a great source of funding for communities that are looking to do environmental assessments or clean up contaminated properties. Beginning in 1997, and continuing through 2007, 71 different Michigan applicants received Brownfield Program funding from the U.S. EPA. In all, over \$46 million has come to Michigan in the form of grants to support brownfield redevelopment initiatives. These funds have

been used to conduct site investigations and site cleanup. Grants have also gone to local communities, counties, and the state to establish brownfield revolving loan programs that are used to support redevelopment activities in their target areas.

The passage in 2002 of the federal Brownfield Program legislation created new opportunities for local governments to receive brownfield redevelopment funding. Michigan communities were quick to avail themselves of the new funding opportunities and received over \$33 million from the U.S. EPA between 2002 and 2007, in support of their brownfield redevelopment programs.

Fifty-four (54) Michigan communities have submitted applications for the 2008 funding round, requesting \$28.15 million in brownfield redevelopment support. Award announcements are pending and will be made in the spring of 2008.

Across the nation, the U.S. EPA has awarded 1,067 assessment grants totaling \$262 million, 217 revolving loan fund grants totaling \$201.7 million, and 336 cleanup grants totaling \$61.3 million. For more information about the U.S. EPA brownfield grant funding opportunities, you may go to: www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm.



This May 5-7, 2008, the city of Detroit will host the 12th annual National Brownfields Conference. Detroit anticipates over 6,000 participants from across the country attending this three-day event. There will be several tours and activities including a walking tour of the Detroit Riverfront, two days of educational programming, opening remarks from Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, and many other exciting events. The conference is free. For more information visit www.Brownfields2008.org.

If you have questions about Michigan's Brownfield Redevelopment Grant and Loan Program, you may contact; **Nancy Steffen**, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, 517-373-9540, steffenj@michigan.gov, or go to the DEQ web page at: www.michigan.gov/deq, and select Land Redevelopment.

MICHIGAN'S CALL TO ACTION ON AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

The Office of the Great Lakes (OGL) is hosting a stakeholder meeting, Michigan's Call to Action on Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in East Lansing, Michigan to discuss the economic and environmental challenges facing the

state of Michigan in regards to AIS. This meeting is intended to bring together stakeholders with a vested interest and/or concern for AIS prevention and control in the Great Lakes and Michigan waters including environmental organizations, affected industry, riparians, anglers, boaters, resource managers, researchers, and other interested individuals to discuss emerging threats, ongoing challenges, economic and ecological impacts, current efforts, management gaps, and needed actions. Participants will be asked to recommend actions in areas of policy and legislation; research and monitoring; and information and education to address AIS in Michigan. Discussions and recommendations will form the foundation of the update of Michigan's AIS state management plan leading to implementation of these actions over the next few months and years.

The original version of Michigan's AIS management plan was completed in January 1996 pursuant to the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Species Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-646) and updated in 2002. This federal law, reauthorized in 1996 by the National Invasive Species Act, calls upon states to develop and implement comprehensive management plans for aquatic nuisance species.

Advance registration is required as space is limited. To register for the meeting, visit www.michigan.gov/deqworkshops or contact the **Office of the Great Lakes** at 517-335-4056.

Effective Monday January 21, the Department of Environmental Quality, Remediation and Redevelopment (RRD) staff from the DEQ RRD Detroit office have been permanently relocated to the DEQ South East Michigan Warren office. The Warren office is located at 27700 Donald Court, Warren, MI 48092. The four staff who moved to the Warren office are **Pewu Bah-Deh, Patricia Thornton, Steven Hoin** and **Stephanie Johnson**. The staff can be reached by calling 586-753-3700.

USED OIL BIENNIAL REPORTS DUE MARCH 1

Used oil processors and re-refiners are required to submit used oil biennial reports by March 1, 2008. This report is required per state and federal used oil management standards.

Facilities required to submit the biennial report are those managing used for the purpose of making it more amenable for production of fuel oils, lubricants, or other used oil-derived products.

Processing includes all of the following:

- Blending used oil with virgin petroleum products,
- Blending used oils to meet fuel specifications,
- Filtration,
- Simple distillation,
- Chemical or physical separation, and
- Re-refining.

Some activities a facility generating used oil may do that are not considered processing include:

- Filtering, separating, or otherwise reconditioning their own generated used oil before burning it in an on-site space heater,
 - Filtering, cleaning, or otherwise reconditioning the used oil before reuse,
-

- Using an oil water separator so the wastewater can meet discharge requirements,
- Using oil mist collectors to remove small droplets of used oil from in-plant air to make plant air suitable for continued recirculation, and
- Draining used oil from other materials (e.g. draining oil filters).

Transporters may do the following without submitting a biennial report and meeting the processor/re-refiner requirements:

- Conduct incidental processing that occurs during the normal course of transportation (e.g. settling and water separation), or
- Filtering used oil removed from electrical transformers and turbines prior to being returned to its original use.

Used oil processors and re-refiners must submit the report in the form of a letter summarizing the 2007 used oil activities to: DEQ Waste and Hazardous Materials Division, Attn: Jack Schinderle, PO Box 30241, Lansing MI 48909-7741.

The report must include at a minimum:

- The year the report covers,
- Company name and address,
- Site identification number,
- Amount of used oil accepted for processing,
- Description how the oil is processed, and
- Contact name and phone number that the WHMD may call if there is a question about the report.

The DEQ does not have a form for this report. If you have questions, call the **Environmental Assistance Program** at 800-662-9278.

NEW COMPOSTING LAW

Effective March 26, 2008, there will be new waste requirements for composting yard clippings per Act 212 of 2007 which amends Part 115, Solid Waste Management, of Act 451 of 1994. Yard clippings includes leaves, grass clippings, vegetable or other garden debris, shrubbery, or brush and tree trimmings less than 4 feet in length and 2 inches in diameter. It does not include stumps, agricultural waste, animal waste, roots, sewage sludge, or garbage.



The law identifies several options for managing yard clippings:

- Composted at the property where they came from,
 - Temporarily accumulated under specific conditions at a site before moving to another location,
 - Composted at a farm registered with the Department of Agriculture,
 - Composted at a composting facility registered with the DEQ Waste and Hazardous Materials Division,
 - Composted and used under specific conditions at a licensed solid waste landfill,
-

- Composted at a processing plant meeting Part 115 requirements,
- Composted at a site that has not more than 200 cubic yards of yard clippings if no nuisance is created,
- Disposed of at a landfill if diseased or infested or the material is an invasive plant collected through an eradication or control program and inappropriate to compost, and
- Processed in anaerobic digester meeting specific conditions.

DEQ registered composting facilities will be subject to a \$600 registration fee. The registration is for 3 years. Registered facilities have location restrictions and operating requirements, and are required to submit annual reports containing information about the amount of yard clippings and other compostable materials managed during the previous fiscal year.

The Waste and Hazardous Materials Division is developing the registration form and guidance materials at this time. When available, it will be posted at www.michigan.gov/deq/waste "Solid Waste." In the meantime, the law is available at www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2007-2008/publicact/pdf/2007-PA-0212.pdf. Questions may be directed to Mr. Matt Flechter at 517-373-8422 or flechtem@michigan.gov.

TIME FOR THE MERCURY GENIE TO GET 'BACK IN THE BOTTLE'

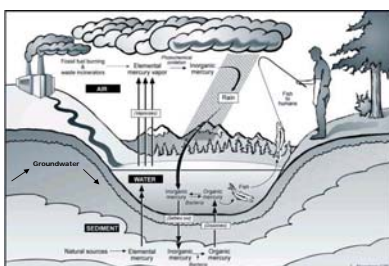
Steve Kratzer, Mercury Pollution Prevention and Policy Specialist
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

{The problem with mercury}

For the past several decades, Mercury (Hg), has received increasing attention as a serious pollutant of concern due to its toxic and bioaccumulative properties. In aquatic systems mercury undergoes a series of complex chemical and physical transformations and is often converted by bacteria to methylmercury (MeHg, the organic form of mercury) which can be magnified up the aquatic food chain hundreds of thousands of times, posing a potential risk to humans and wildlife that consume fish.



Michigan was the first state in the nation to issue fish consumption advisories due to significant amounts of mercury being discharged from chlor-alkali plants back in 1970. In 1988, the Michigan Department of Community Health issued a state-wide fish consumption advisory for all of Michigan's 11,000 lakes due to mercury contamination. Today, Michigan remains one of forty-nine (49) states that have issued fish consumption advisories due to high mercury levels in fish. In fact, recent scientific studies divulge that for the United States, this means over 600,000 infants born annually in the United States are exposed at risk to levels of MeHg above what EPA considers safe.



Although mercury occurs naturally in the environment, human and industrial activities, including those that use mercury directly or

burn mercury bearing fossil fuels like coal, have increased the amount of mercury deposited in the environment some two to three fold. Once mercury is released to the atmosphere, it is deposited in waterbodies, where it may concentrate or bioaccumulate in fish.

{Michigan's response}

Reducing human and wildlife exposure to mercury has been and continues to be a high priority for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). Over the past several decades, the MDEQ has implemented a variety of activities that include monitoring, developing regulations and policies for identifying, preventing, or eliminating the human use and release of this toxic pollutant.

Most recently, on January 30, 2008, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, released the "Michigan MDEQ Mercury Strategy Staff Report" containing 67 specific recommended action steps for Michigan, which represents the next phase in the battle against mercury.

The Mercury Strategy sets forth an aggressive challenge to reduce the use and release of mercury, ninety percent (90%) by 2015. Ultimately, the desired outcome from this initiative, will be to make Michigan's fish safe to eat and allow state-wide fish consumption advisories relating to mercury to be removed. Getting there involves working cooperatively with a multitude of stakeholders, such as; utilities, cement plants, heavy manufacturing industries, auto recyclers, schools/universities, retailers, dental clinics, auto manufacturers, hospitals, environmental groups and all others who may use devices containing mercury and/or release mercury.



Currently the MDEQ Mercury Strategy is out for public review and comments are being accepted until March 26, 2008, as to which actions should take priority and which special partnerships will play a crucial role in successfully implementing these recommendations. To see the Michigan MDEQ Mercury Strategy Staff Report visit www.michigan.gov/deq and click on the mercury icon on the left side of the page. For questions regarding the mercury strategy, contact **Steve Kratzer** at Kratzers@michigan.gov and to comment on mercury reduction priorities, send your recommendations to **Sheila Blais** of MDEQ's Air Quality Division at Blais@michigan.gov.



EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2008

2008 INTRODUCTION TO MAERS (MICHIGAN AIR EMISSIONS REPORTING SYSTEMS) WORKSHOP, VARIOUS LOCATIONS, MICHIGAN.

The 2008 Introduction to MAERS Workshop takes participants step by step through the new MAERS version 2007.0.0 software on computers. This hands-on training is designed for those who are new to MAERS or those who need more comprehensive training on the concepts and software. Workshop participants will learn MAERS software basics, how to complete the electronic forms and submit your report to DEQ, and how to avoid common mistakes encountered when completing and submitting your MAERS report. Workshop attendees will receive the "MAERS Workbook" and other guidance materials. If you plan on attending the Lansing session, you are encouraged to bring your laptop as only a limited number of computers will be available at that site.

Registration fee: \$75. A full brochure and online registration form are available on the Web at www.michigan.gov/deqworkshops, click on "Upcoming Workshops."

Information Contact: **Jim Ostrowski**, Environmental Science and Services Division, 517-241-8057 or ostrowsj@michigan.gov.

Registration Information: **Environmental Assistance Center**, 800-662-9278 or deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
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2/21/08 - PM Session ONLY	MTEC at Kalamazoo Valley Community College
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Effective 1-16-08 all computer seats are filled in Kalamazoo. After 1-16-08 only register for this session if you can bring a laptop to class with you. Contact Jim Ostrowski at 517-241-8057 if you have questions.

2/26/08 - AM Session ONLY	Lansing Community College, West Campus, Lansing*
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** Effective 2-13-08 all computer seats are filled in Lansing. After 2-13-08 only register for this session if you can bring a laptop to class with you. Contact Jim Ostrowski at 517-241-8057 if you have questions.*

FEBRUARY 20, 2008 - 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Monthly Air Permit Application Workshop for First-Time Applicants, CONSTITUTION HALL, LANSING, MICHIGAN. For most first-time applicants, completing the Permit to Install application is a daunting task. However, submitting a complete and timely application can be more manageable if you know what's expected. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is offering this workshop designed to give information on how to submit a complete permit application. Since this workshop is geared to first-time applicants, a significant portion of the session is devoted to your specific application. Air Quality Division permit engineers will be available to discuss your permit application with you one-on-one. To take full advantage of this time with the permit engineer, it is recommended you bring detailed information about your project with you to the session. This training is designed for first-time air permit applicants who need help completing their permit application; however, those who have applied before and need a refresher are welcome to attend as well. Online registration is available on the Web at www.michigan.gov/deqworkshops, click on "Upcoming DEQ Workshops".

Registration Fee: \$25, which includes parking in the Ellis Parking Lot on the east side of Constitution Hall and training manual.

Information Contact: **James Ostrowski**, Environmental Science and Services Division, 517-241-8057 or ostrowsj@michigan.gov.

Registration Information: **Environmental Assistance Center**, 800-662-9278 or deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov.

MARCH 5, 2008

MICHIGAN'S CALL TO ACTION ON AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS), KELLOGG HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER, EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN. The Office of the Great Lakes (OGL) is hosting a stakeholder meeting to discuss the economic and environmental challenges facing the state of Michigan in regards to AIS. This meeting is intended to bring together stakeholders with a vested interest and/or concern for AIS prevention and control in the Great Lakes and Michigan waters including environmental organizations, affected industry, riparians, anglers, boaters, resource managers, researchers, and other interested individuals to discuss emerging threats, ongoing challenges, economic and ecological impacts, current efforts, management gaps, and needed actions. Participants will be asked to recommend actions in areas of policy and

legislation; research and monitoring; and information and education to address AIS in Michigan. Discussions and recommendations will form the foundation of the update of Michigan's AIS state management plan leading to implementation of these actions over the next few months and years. Advance registration is required as space is limited. Online registration is available on the Web at www.michigan.gov/deqworkshops, click on "Upcoming DEQ Workshops" or contact the Office of the Great Lakes at 517-335-4056.

MARCH 6-8, 2008

MICHIGAN SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION 66TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, MAKING A DIFFERENCE, RADISSON HOTEL AND LANSING CENTER, LANSING. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is holding five pre-conference Michigan Environmental Education Curriculum Support (MEECS) training workshops on March 6, 2008. Registration will soon be available at www.michigan.gov/deqworkshops. To register for the pre-conference trainings click on upcoming workshops.

Registration Fee: \$30.00. The DEQ is also holding an overview informational session on the MEECS curriculum during the conference on March 7, 2008. Throughout the conference, the DEQ is exhibiting a booth to display MEECS general information.

Information Contact: **Thomas Occhipinti**, Executive Division, 517-373-2379 or occhipintit@michigan.gov.

General conference information is available at www.msta-mich.org/conference.

Registration for the MSTA conference is available at www.msta-mich.org/conference/registration.php.

APRIL 2, 2008

UNWANTED MEDICINE DISPOSAL: DOING IT THE RIGHT WAY, Cleary University, Johnson Center, Howell, Michigan. Due to advances in medicine, more people are using medicines for maintaining health and vitality. For many reasons, medicines are not always entirely consumed. Disposing of unwanted medicines is becoming an environmental, public safety and criminal concern with the traditional "flushing" disposal practice no longer deemed acceptable by public health and natural resource experts. Many medicines pass through wastewater treatment facilities and septic systems, ending up in streams, lakes and groundwater throughout the country. In addition, prescription medicines are a major source of poisoning among children and contribute to teen drug abuse. This workshop will provide information and tools for community pharmaceutical collection programs, as well as pharmacies and medical facilities to safely manage unwanted medicines. Presenters will focus on alternatives to "flushing," including best practices from solid waste facilities in Michigan, and surrounding states/provinces. Online registration is available at www.michigan.gov/deqworkshops, click on "Upcoming DEQ Workshops".

Registration Fee: \$75, which includes continental breakfast, lunch, and workshop materials.

Information Contact: **Lucy Doroshko**, Environmental Science and Services Division, 517-373-1322 or doroshkl@michigan.gov.

Registration Information: **Environmental Assistance Center**, 800-662-9278 or deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov.

APRIL 11-13, 2008

AUTOMOTIVE RECYCLERS OF MICHIGAN'S 2008 TRADE SHOW AND CONFERENCE, SHERATON DETROIT NOVI, MICHIGAN. This trade show and conference is intended for those involved in Michigan's automotive recycling industry. The Michigan Department of Environmental

Quality will have an exhibit at this event. For further information, contact the Automotive Recyclers of Michigan, 800-831-2519 or visit www.automotiverecyclers.com.

APRIL 29, 2008

DATA QUALITY IN THE MODERN ANALYTICAL LABORATORY, EAGLE EYE BANQUET FACILITY, EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN. Save the date! The Michigan Water Environment Association (MWEA) Laboratory Practices Committee, in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Laboratory, the Michigan Environmental Laboratory Association (MELA), and the Michigan Section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA), will be conducting a one day seminar designed to educate environmental analysts and laboratory managers on new and emerging topics in our industry. Registration information for attendees and exhibitors will soon be available on the web at www.mi-wea.org (under the calendar of events).

Information Contact: **John Parmentier**, MWEA Laboratory Practices Committee Chair, 734-462-3900 Ext. 210 or jcparmentier@paragonlaboratories.com.

MAY 5-7, 2008

BROWNFIELDS 2008, COBO CENTER, DETROIT, MICHIGAN. FREE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR BROWNFIELDS 2008-DETROIT CONFERENCE. With nearly 7,000 attendees anticipated, over 150 educational sessions, more than 200 exhibitors, and unrivaled networking events - this National Brownfields Conference is the premier event of its kind and is co-sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). Brownfields 2008 includes timely and valuable knowledge and skill building workshops, exceptional business development and networking opportunities, brownfield redevelopment bus tours, a special developer tour, and hundreds of product and service providers in the exhibit hall to meet your project needs. Festivities actually begin on Sunday with a site tour of brownfield redevelopment sites in Monroe. **FREE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!** Visit www.brownfields2008.org to register, to learn the latest, and to sign up for the Brownfields 2008 e-newsletter. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is an official endorser of Brownfields 2008.

Information Contact: **Ronald Smedley**, Remediation and Redevelopment Division, 517-373-4805 or smedleyr@michigan.gov.

<p><i>If you are interested in participating in the development of any Environmental Science and Services Division event, please call Mary Goodhall at 517-241-7968 or email at goodhalm@michigan.gov.</i></p>
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